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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR.

30 April 1948

SUBJECT

Predictions Concerning Political Developments

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1. Source does not believe that the "dissolution", as he calls it, of the Control Council will lead immediately to the establishment of an Eastern-Zone government; at least, the Volksrat has not yet been instructed to make preparations for such a government. However, the elimination of the Control Council as the possessor of German sovereignty has left the People's Congress (Volkskongress) as the only body capable of laying claim to the sovereign status of Germany as a whole. This claim is made, and is to be justified by means of the People's Initiative (Volksbegehren). As a result of the referendum to be held in the Eastern Zone, an all-German government will be created, which will have, vis-å-vis the western zones, the churacter of a government in emile. This government will be recognized by the eastern world and will have diplomatic representation abroad.

- 2. To begin with, the People's Congress will be organized in avery community and every factory. Together with the People's Council (Volksrat), which will guide and control the decisions of the Volkskongress, they will constitute a Movement (Bewegung) like the one which is the driving force in the Soviet Union. This, source remarks, is the second member of the trinity "People-Movement-State" which represents the legal structure of the state. The government which is to be founded will supersede the Roonomic Commission, which at present is the executive organ of administration.
- 3. The Volksbegehren will be officially recognized by Sokolovsk1.
 At the moment it is the major propagarda effort of the whole People's Congress movement, and is being pushed energetically with petitions circulating in restaurants as well as in factoric and residential districts.

empects that the total number collected will be about rive million. In the weston zones the "Initiative" is

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being carried on illegally. The ensuing plebiscite in the Bastern Zone is expected to produce a favorable vote of about ninety per cent.

- 4. Source believes that all the present political parties, including the SED, will become superfluous and may be abolished. They have now performed their principal function, namely the liquidation of National Socialism, and their duties will now be taken over more and more by the People's Congresses. As in the Soviet Union, political debates will give way to concrete local discussions of social and economic problems.
- The dissolution of the Control Council will lead to the elimination of the allied Komendatura in Berlin as well. The Berlin city administration will continue to have a shedow existence, but real control will be exercised by the separate borough governments. Meanwhile the Soviet Union will press for the removal of the American "bridgehead" in Berlin, by stopping shipments into the city. The success of this campaign depends upon the adequacy of supplies brought in by air; these can never suffice for the German population in the restern sectors, which will be forced by hunger to revolt and to agitate for absorption into the Soviet sector.
- 6. The future German government will have its seat in Berlin. The "exile" representative for the West will be Lax Reimann (KPD). Source thinks that the Americans will be forced to reply by setting up in Frankfurt a parallel government in exile for the East under the control of the Kaiser faction of the CDU.

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